

The Watauga Democrat.

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BOONE WATAUGA COUNTY, N. C., THURSDAY DECEMBER 4, 1919.

NO 8.

The New Idea in Coal.

The technical papers have been recently engaged in a discussion of new and inexpensive processes whereby the by-products of coal may develop into an important economical factor in the operation of large manufacturing and public utilities plants. The claim is made that the value of these by-products would amount to a practical nullification of the coal bill. It would not only offset the price of coal, but operate to its conservation. "The new idea" is generally worth investigating by the interests which it is claimed to benefit and no doubt private and public concerns using large tonnage of coal will in a short time be reaping the proportionate advantages from the by-products of coal, as the packers are securing from the by-products of cattle and the cotton seed plants from the by-products of cotton. In this connection The Observer has received a letter from John Flemming of 230 West 127th Street, New York, which has aroused an honest curiosity. It suggests the utilization of the coal ashes the people have been throwing away and gives "a formula" by which these ashes can be returned to the furnace in the shape of fuel. Mr. Flemming indicates that it is nothing new, as "the experience of thousands who have tried it goes to prove." It is a little strange, in view of the great possibilities claimed, that knowledge of the process has not become more general. But why be skeptical without reason? The experiment is a simple one and the experimenter, at any rate, could lose nothing by giving it a trial. For the enlightenment of our readers and for their possible benefit, we are quoting from Flemming's letter:

"In view of the threatened coal famine this winter, I have the following suggestion to offer to save fuel: The idea is to take the ashes that we are now throwing out, and after treating them to a simple chemical preparation, to return them to the furnace and obtain from them as great, if not greater heat than we did from the coal itself. And this can be done, as the experience of thousands who have tried the experiment goes to prove. The formula for this chemical preparation is as follows: Take one pound of common salt, two ounces of oxalic acid, and one gallon of water, mix, and moisten a mixture containing one part coal and three ashes, and a better fuel than pure coal is obtained. The ashes of anthracite coal burn as do those of bituminous. The mixture will upon being placed upon a burning fire, fuse into a coallike mass and deposit but little residue."

It is said in explanation of the chemical action of this compound that when an aqueous solution of alkaline salt is mixed with coal ash, the result is that a mild lye is formed, which, when mixed with any combustible material, such as coal, and upon the application of heat, gives off oxygen gas, thus enabling rapid combustion. The addition of oxalic acid causes a chemical change of greater value than the first, for the reason that it results in the formation of a carbide, which in turn gives off acetylene gas, this adding to the intensity of the heat, and facilitating complete combustion. It is impossible upon moistening a small quantity of ashes, without the addition of coal, to really detect the odor of acetylene gas, and if the treated ashes are placed upon a lighted fire, they will fuse and burn

The Fourth State.

The astonishing statement of Major Graham that North Carolina is going to rank fourth this year in agricultural products will be a pleasing surprise. Last year when North Carolina climbed up so close to Georgia and passed other famous farm states of the Union we could only hope that the state had made one remarkable record, and we could be content if we could hold a part of the gain. To make still further gain when so near the front is out of the ordinary.

Last year's crops ran considerably above half a billion dollars. Major Graham thinks the total this year will run closer to a billion than to half a billion. Tobacco is probably to be the leader. The Commissioner estimates this crop at \$200,000,000. The main feature in the tobacco crop is the price. This has climbed steadily upwards until dollar sales are very ordinary. Along with a high price is a larger crop. Therefore the farm wins on two counts this year. This year is the largest ever known in the State, and the price is the largest ever known. The two factors together give the largest amount of money ever realized in the state. We can go farther than that, and say that the tobacco crop this year will bring more actual cash to North Carolina than all the crops produced in a year ever brought in a single year prior to the war.

The cotton crop, according to Major Graham's estimate will not be so large as that of last year, although the ginning reports show that cotton is coming in quite lively. But the price is much higher. The cotton crop alone, counting the cash value of the seed and the lint, will bring to the state close to a hundred and fifty million dollars. Cotton being another cash crop, this will add enormously to the tangible income of North Carolina.

Besides these two strictly cash crops are the big farm crops of wheat, corn, pork and the articles that are used largely for home consumption, or the local or state markets. While these do not add up in the total figures that go to the bank, they count for just as much in production and help to show the enormous total made by the North Carolina farms. The smaller cash crops will add to that which comes from tobacco and cotton. All together the cash crop will run well up towards half a billion dollars. The State that can beat that has not much company.—News and Observer.

You can do some things next week, but some you cannot. So don't wait, act now!

Insure your house before it burns.

Insure your health before you get sick.

Insure your life before you die for then it is everlastingly too late.

I sell the best policies at universal rates

GEORGE F. BLAIR,

Blowing Rock, N. C.

to a fine powder.

Mr. Flemming states that this compound has been used in many large industrial plants and mercantile institutions, and these claim for it that "it has reduced the fuel item more than half." As a matter of course, it could also be used by householders with a little ingenuity. The Observer is passing the idea along. Perhaps some of the thrifty inclined may be moved to experiment and report results.—Charlotte Observer.

Rev. Lorenza Dowd Cole.

R. v. Lorenza Dowd Cole, our departed brother, was born in Grayson county, Virginia, March 24, 1843, and died at his home in Watauga county, North Carolina, September 16, 1919, aged 76 years, 5 months and 21 days.

Brother Cole was a local preacher in the M. E. Church, South, for 25 years, and at the time of his death he was expected at Fleetwood, to assist the writer in a protracted meeting, but the Master said "Come up higher."

He was united in marriage to Miss Martha A. Miller on Aug. 15, 1869, and to this union was born 13 children, the wife and nine children. He gave his heart and life to Jesus and joined the M. E. Church South when only 14 years of age, and adorned it with his ministry and Godly life, for twenty-five years. But death has taken him away. The seasons come and go with unflinching certainty. Day follows day, and the night succeeds the morning under the absolute and definite laws of the Universe. Everything, every being, every material object which has life and growth, has its beginning and its end. It is born, it lives and at last dies. Death is the cessation of life. It is a natural and a philosophical change. It is the Harvest-home of humanity, the Season of rest. It is the glorious horizon of eternal peace, beyond whose shining drapery exists through that forever, where every soul must claim its everlasting home. When a child is born, the thought is, "What will he be?" And when a man dies, the question is, "What has he been?" Rev. L. D. Cole was our brother, our friend. What has he been? God will measure him by his own just balance for time past and for eternity to come. We mention him as we knew him. We measure him by his life, which is before us, and we cherish him for his humanity and kindness in life, which we know and which we loved, and for his earnest prayers and faithful sermons. The crisis which he has met and passed awaits us all. Can we meet it as he has done? Can we stand at the open door of an endless future and cast all doubts and fears aside? Can we ennoble our lives by the nobility with which we lay it down at last? We bear upon our hearts, tender with sympathy, the sorrows of his bereaved family. May they feel beneath them the Everlasting arms. May they be kept by the peace—the peace of God—that passeth all understanding.

OLIVER D. STACY.

The "Brass" of The Hun.

The "brass" of the Hun has almost ceased to excite interest. It is so common that one is hardly surprised at any proposition a German may make. That accounts for the fact that so little notice was taken of the story from Berlin the other day that the Spanish embassy, in charge of American affairs in Germany, was overwhelmed with applications from German army officers who wanted commissions in the American army. Some of these commission seeking Huns said that they could be of value in "teaching the American how to fight." One would think that recent experiences might have suggested to the Hun that the American doughboy is a pretty fair fighting man, and that possibly there are not so many things that Fritz can show him. But pretending not to understand that is no more surprising than the proposal that

Wants to Put Men in Gay Colors.

A man garbed in a black frock coat a ruffe, a pair of pink breeches and bright-colored stockings very likely would evoke astonishment if not ridicule were he to stroll down Fifth Avenue or Broadway, but Henry Parkes, hailed in London as "the hidden hand in men's fashions," declares, according to a dispatch from London, such restoration of color and line to men's dress should be a logical and altogether proper aftermath of the war.

He is seeking to revolutionize men's dress—to popularize the "gallant" styles of bygone days. His creed is that men want to cast off their dark, unsympathetic garments of gloom and wear clothes of bright hue and brilliant cut expressive of a new age of heroism and romance.

"Volunteers wanted, 1,000 sportsmen of good social position to wear upon a given date new fashions for men designed to bring back color and line into masculine attire."

This was the gist of a request the apostle of the new era of "romantic dress" sought to have inserted in London papers. To convince newspaper representatives of his sincerity Mr. Parkes exhibited fifteen sample suits, or rather costumes.

The "call for volunteers" was printed, but the last communiqué from Mr. Parkes' establishment was to the effect that the desired "war strength" of 1,000 had not yet been recruited.

Trick Played on Sheriff of Yadkin.

One of the most shameful and cowardly acts perpetrated in Yadkinville in many days, was unsuccessfully undertaken a few days ago when some party or parties undertook to use unlawful material to try to intimidate Sheriff J. E. Zachery.

They first went and placed a regular retailer's outfit in Mr. Zachery's barn under some straw in a place not usually frequented, then proceeded to report it to the revenue officers. Before they arrived Mr. Zachery found the outfit, which consisted of a five gallon jug with about one quart of whiskey in it, a cyphon and several bottles. Mr. Zachery took the outfit in charge and told several of the leading men here of his find and said he believed it was a trap set on account of his untiring efforts to break up the blockading in this section.

Sure enough, in a few days a couple of officers from Wilkesboro came along with a search warrant for his barn. He told them to help themselves but he found what they were looking after and they could have it if they wanted it.

This is plainly an attempt on the part of Sheriff Zachery's enemies in conjunction with the liquor dealers in this section to intimidate him and perhaps put him to trouble, but their efforts failed. They will probably learn that such blunders as this will not check the sheriff in the discharge of his duties, he says. Nobody, even the sheriff's enemies, believe he would retail whiskey at any price and the people of this county would naturally resent any such brute blunders as this, and the sheriff knows who they are, and the people of Yadkinville knows who done the trick. You can't fool a public in such a manner.—Yadkin Ripple.

America should put a bunch of German officers in her army.—Statesville Landmark.

They Chose the Man.

Now that all is over and there has been time to assess results, including causes and effects, we are convinced, first of all, that one thing happened in the Ninth District: The Democrats of that District, when they came to select a candidate to Congress, voted for the man, not for the county or the city. If a county or a city had been running for congress Mecklenburg and Charlotte undoubtedly would have won. But as two men were running the people decided for Hoey rather than McCall, without regard to the geographical location of the residence of either. People have a way of doing that. Why, it hasn't been many decades since the Eighth District Republicans of this State went to Greensboro and got a candidate for Congress.

Mr. Hoey's majority makes it very clear that he is the one man the Democrats of the Ninth District want as their representative in Washington. We believe the election will show that the people of the district are of the same mind. Mr. Hoey is known in every precinct of the district. He had that very enormous advantage over his opponent in the primary. The vote shows that he was as popular in several other counties as in his own county of Cleveland. His opponent could make headway only in the county where he lived. And there, as The Journal predicted would be the case, the people did not get together unanimously.

The thing that gave Mr. Hoey the nomination will also give him the seat in Congress made vacant by the resignation of Judge Webb. Hoey is a man of the people. He came up from the people. With no family "pull" or the advantage that goes with wealth he has fought his way to leadership. The people know him, but better than that, he knows the people. The people trust him, but better than that, he trusts the people. He fights in the open. He is progressive.

His opponent, Mr. Morehead, is also a high toned gentleman. He is a man of great wealth and large business interests. He is an experienced politician. But he has one big handicap. He is known as a reactionary, standpat Republican. It is hardly conceivable that a District that has kept a man like Yates Webb in Congress for years would now turn down a progressive Democrat like Hoey for a reactionary standpat Republican like Morehead.—Winston-Salem Journal.

Bumper World Crops Estimated.

A dispatch from Washington says that bumper world crops of corn, potatoes, barley, rye, sugar beets and rough rice for this year are shown in estimates compiled by the international institute of agriculture at Rome, made public by the department of agriculture. The production of oats, wheat and flax seed, however, show a decrease from the average for the five years ended in 1917.

Wheat production in 14 countries, excepting the central powers, will reach 2,040,509,000 bushels, 96.5 per cent of the five year average. Corn will amount to 3,126,194,000, 14.8 per cent greater than the crop produced last year and 4.4 per cent greater than that produced for the last five years. Other crops, the department cablegram shows, are estimated as follows: Rye 169,414,000 bushels, 124 per cent five year average; barley, 550,090,000 bushels, 101.8 per cent; oats 2,

Remarkable Nerve of Methodist Preacher.

The Wilson correspondent of the Greensboro Daily News, tells this remarkable story:

"A preacher of the Methodist conference, in session here whose charges are on the Roberdell circuit in Richmond county, is a man of remarkable nerve. Seven years ago, before entering the ministry and while living with his uncle, who is a physician, a horse ran away with him and threw him out against a tree stump by the road side. His head came in contact with a big stump, rendering him unconscious for a while. On recovering he went home a-foot and for 15 months he had a continual headache.

"From time to time his uncle made an examination of the wound on his head, which failed to heal and assured the sufferer there was no fracture. Finally the preacher concluded to make a personal investigation of his condition and soon found with the aid of two mirrors, a penknife and nerve, that his uncle had been mistaken as to the nature of his wound.

"Placing a small mirror in his lap he seated himself in front of a larger one which he arranged in such a manner that he could see the top of his head and with the point of a penknife soon found that his skull was cracked. He cut around the fracture and took out a piece as large as a silver dollar, and almost immediately the pain left him. He refused to have his head trepanned, and it quickly cured, leaving a round scar a quarter of an inch deep and nearly as large as a dollar."

James Stucky Says, "Rat Cost Me \$125 for Plumbing Bills."

"We couldn't tell what was clogging up our toilet and drains. We had to tear up floor, pipes, etc., found a rat nest in basement. They had choked the pipes with refuse. The plumber's bill was \$125. Rat Snap cleaned the rodent out." Three sizes, 25c, 50c, \$1. Sold and guaranteed by L. L. Critcher.

Report of the condition of The Watauga County Bank

at Boone, N. C., at the close of business Nov. 17, 1919.

RESOURCES	
Loans and discounts	\$451,345.10
Overdrafts	1800.24
U. S. and Liberty bonds	3,950.00
Banking houses	2,740.00
Furniture and fixtures	1,500.00
Cash in vault and net amounts due from Banks, Bankers and Trust Companies	187,949.71
Cash items held over 24 hrs	2042.15
Total	\$651,427.29

LIABILITIES	
Capital stock paid in	\$49,100.00
Surplus fund	12775.00
Undivided profits, less current expenses & taxes paid	11,445.55
Deposits subject to check	324,908.60
Time certificates of deposit	182,401.71
Savings deposits	49,110.19
Cashiers' checks outstanding	11,025.35
Total	\$651,427.29

State of North Carolina, county of Watauga. I, G. P. HAGAMAN, Cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

G. P. HAGAMAN, Cashier.

Correct—Attest:

N. L. MIST

W. C. COFFEY

B. B. DOUGHERTY, Directors.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 25th day of Nov 1919.

W. R. Gragg, Register of Deeds.

"These Rats Wouldn't Eat My Best Grain," Says Fred Lamb.

It's hard to keep rats out of a feed store. Tried for years. A neighboring store sold me some Rat Snap. It worked wonders. Gathered up dead rats every morning. Bought more Rat Snap. Haven't a rat now. They wouldn't eat my best grain when I threw Rat Snap around." 3 sizes, 25c, 50c, \$1.00. Sold and guaranteed by L. L. Critcher.

855,786,000 bushels, 90.3 percent rice, 423,375,000 bushels, 83.8 percent. Potatoes, 607,632,000 bushels, 101.2 per cent; sugar beets, 10,334,000 tons, 11.8 per cent; flax seed, 26,492,000 bushels, 60.9 per cent.

BAD COPY OR LIGHT PRINT